

Thalheim 16.04.2007

## **CSG Solar AG expands its workforce and moves to 24/7 operation**

This week CSG Solar AG passes a critical milestone as it commences continuous 24hour /7day operation at its manufacturing facility in Thalheim, Sachsen-Anhalt.

The development of CSG Solar AG began in 1995 in Sydney, Australia when the founders of the Company recognised that a new technology combining the proven durability of conventional crystalline silicon wafer based products and the lower production costs inherent in thin film solar module processing was needed. In June 2004 CSG Solar AG was founded to take the resultant Crystalline Silicon on Glass technology into production for the first time. Ground breaking for construction of CSG Solar's 9,000 sqm production facility in Thalheim occurred in February 2005. In mid July 2006 the facility commenced 24 hour/4 day operation and the task of overcoming the challenges in the production of a new technology began in earnest.

The move to continuous 24/7 operation reflects the progress made by CSG Solar AG and the strong demand for CSG solar modules.

Soon after the Company was founded it employed just one person in Germany. In anticipation of 24/7 operations, in March this year CSG Solar's workforce was increased to 134. Working closely with the Arbeitsagentur Bitterfeld, CSG Solar has trained and engaged 56 talented and motivated people who were previously unemployed for more than one year. 106 of CSG Solar's people, representing nearly 80% of the workforce, come from within 30 km of the Thalheim facility, thus making a significant contribution to the wellbeing of the local community.

David Hogg (CEO) of CSG Solar AG said: "It is a privilege to work with a dedicated team that has achieved what once no one believed was possible. We have faced and overcome many challenges together and will certainly continue to do so as we work to deliver the full potential of our CSG technology. Moving to 24/7 operation marks the achievement of a significant milestone for the Company. The opportunity to offer rewarding employment in the region is a great bonus. The support and guidance we have received from our major shareholders, Q-Cells, REC, APAX, Good Energies and IBC as well as from our customers IBC and Blitzstrom have made our accomplishments possible."

CSG Solar gets the name from its technology, Crystalline Silicon on Glass, in which an extremely thin layer of crystalline silicon directly deposited onto a glass sheet is processed into a solar electric module suitable for mounting outdoors.

CSG technology has been developed by some of the world's leading experts in the crystalline silicon solar cell field and represents a unique alternative, unconstrained by the limit imposed by silicon feed-stock availability and incorporating only non-toxic materials.

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### **Management board**

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Carl von Braun  
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